

3 opening (16) is provided with projection-like latching means (36) for the coupling  
4 member (14).

(Please amend claim 5 as follows):

1 5. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2 that at least one connecting element which connects two halves of the flat housing  
3 (10) to one another is formed as latching means (36).

(Please amend claim 6 as follows):

1 6. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2 that at least one latching means of the coupling member (14) comprises at least one  
3 material web (32) which is elastically deformable, in particular by latching means  
4 (36) of the flat housing (10) and which bounds at least one cut-out (33) which is in  
5 particular in the shape of an elongate slot.

(Please amend claim 8 as follows):

1 8. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2 that the slot opening (16) of the flat housing (10) is at least substantially completely  
3 closed when the coupling member (14) is inserted.

(Please amend claim 9 as follows):

1 9. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2 that the coupling member (14) has at least one abutment edge which can be brought  
3 into abutment with at least one edge region bounding the slot opening (16) or with at

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4 least one abutment region formed in the flat housing (10) on insertion into the flat  
5 housing (10).

(Please amend claim 10 as follows)

1 10. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2 that the outer portion (24) of the coupling member (14) has at least one coupling  
3 element (30) via which the coupling member (14) can be connected, in particular  
4 releasably connected, to carriers (42), in particular in the form of flip covers, outer  
5 packagings, rod arrangements, hanging registers, storage racks, display units, storage  
6 containers, rail systems and/or plug systems.

(Please amend claim 11 as follows)

1 11. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2 that the coupling member (14), in particular a coupling element (30) of the coupling  
3 member (14), is formed for the releasable connection to storage apparatuses for data  
4 storage media of the DVD type, in particular with fixing elements (50) arranged at  
5 narrow sides (44) of DVD boxes (42).

(Please amend claim 12 as follows)

1 12. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2 that the outer portion of the coupling member (14) is connected in one piece to a  
3 carrier (42).

(Please amend claim 13 as follows)

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1           13.    (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2   that the coupling member (14) is a component of a folding packaging, in particular  
3   one consisting of cardboard or card.           112 2nd

Please amend claim 14 as follows:

1           14.    (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2   that the coupling member (14) – in the state connected to a carrier (42) – is pivotable  
3   with respect to the carrier (42) and is in particular biased relative to the carrier (42) in  
4   to an inserting and removing position which allows a simple coupling to the flat  
5   housing (10).

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

1           15.    (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in  
2   that the coupling member (14) consists of a reusable material, in particular of plastic,  
3   preferably polypropylene, or of cardboard or card.

Please cancel claim 17.